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REMARKS

The amendments made in the Specification refer to aspects that are contained within the Figures.

Independent claims 34, 82, and 83 of the instant application substantially differ from the prior art in that:

claim 34 claims the contact surface has a greater area than any adjoining surface;

claim 82 claims the third extent is smaller than either the first or second extent; and

claim 83 claims a wing body having an axis external to the contact surface.

Independent claims 34, 82, and 83 of the instant application are unifying in that the species requires a variety of sub species, claimed in the dependent claims, for operation (MPEP §806.5).

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


Y. FREEDLAND
Inventor and Applicant

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64/6 Trumpeldor Street
Petach-Tikva 49403
Israel

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

34. (Thrice Amended) An orthopedic fastening system comprising [:

(a) an elongate fastener adapted for installation into a bore in a bone and comprising a collet engaging surface:

(b) a single winged element pivotally engaged with a first end of the elongate fastener such that it is pivotable about an axis adjacent said first end and having a planer outer portion with a width substantially parallel to said axis and a length larger than the diameter of the bore into which the fastener is to be installed; and

(c) a collet engaged with a second end of the elongate fastener.]

a shaft having a pivotal engagement at one end and a wing pivotally engaged with said engagement, the wing comprising a body having a plurality of surfaces, each surface defining an area including:

a contact surface having a contact area that contacts a portion of bone; and

at least two adjoining surfaces that adjoin the contact surface, the adjoining surfaces each having a contact edge that contacts the bone, wherein

the contact surface has a greater area than any adjoining surface.

35. (Amended) The orthopedic fastening system (of) according to claim 34, and including a collet that is threaded internally, wherein the [elongate fastener] shaft is [comprises a] threaded [shaft and the collet is threaded internally].

40. (Amended) The orthopedic fastening system (of) according to claim 34, wherein the [single] wing [ed element] is pivotally engaged with the [elongate fastener] shaft by way of a hinge.

43. (Amended) The orthopedic fastening system (of) according to claim [40] 34, wherein the [single] wing [ed element] is pivotally engaged with the [elongate fastener] shaft by way of a pin hinge.

47. (Amended) The orthopedic fastening system (of) according to any one of claims 34, 35,

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[36, 39,] 40 and 43 [and 46] and including a [wherein the collet is a longitudinally] split collet that is slidable longitudinally along the [elongate member] shaft when the split collet is expanded and is not slidable longitudinally along [, but may be slidable transversely with respect to,] the [elongate member] shaft when the split collet is collapsed about the [elongate member] shaft.